

MONTHLY WEATHER REVIEW,

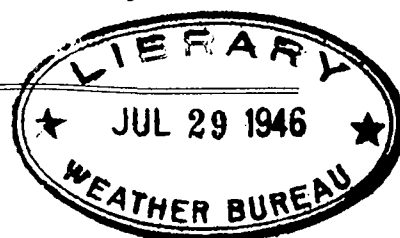
AUGUST, 1872.

WAR DEPARTMENT,

Office of the Chief Signal Officer,

DIVISION OF

TELEGRAMS AND REPORTS FOR THE BENEFIT OF COMMERCE AND AGRICULTURE.



STORMS.

During this month the progress over the country of twelve areas of low barometer have been traced upon the War Department Weather Maps, Signal Service, U. S. Army. One of these storm-centres apparently advanced northward along the coast of Oregon northeastward across Washington Territory into British America and then southeastward to Dakota; another seemed to originate in eastern Tennessee, moving thence northeastward over West Virginia, Pennsylvania, and New York to New England; and still another, which had advanced from the Northwest eastward to New York, suddenly changed its course to southward over Pennsylvania, Maryland, and the coasts of Virginia and North Carolina. The tracks of the remaining nine of these storm-centres seem to be confined to the country lying between the Missouri valley and the middle and east Atlantic coasts, having succeeded each other with more or less regularity, moving from west to east. The area of low barometer which crossed the country from Kansas and Nebraska, over the lower lakes and New England, during the 27th, 28th, 29th, and 30th days of the month, developed rapidly into a more decided storm-centre after reaching Lake Ontario, causing quite severe easterly gales on the New England coast. Otherwise no gales dangerous to commercial interests have prevailed during the month, and no cautionary signals have been ordered. An unusual number of severe local thunder-storms have, however, been experienced throughout the middle and eastern states.

RAINFALL.

The rainfall returns show that a considerable amount of rain, over the mean for the month, has fallen in New England, New Jersey, eastern portions of New York and Pennsylvania, and on the coast of Georgia and the Carolinas; a smaller excess has fallen in Maryland, western and northern Virginia, and eastern Tennessee. This surplus amounts to 6.29 inches at Boston; 2.86 inches at Portland, Me.; 5.41 inches at Burlington, Vt.; 3.15 inches at Philadelphia; 1.86 inches at Washington; 6.00 inches at Wilmington, N. C., and 3.99 inches at Savannah. Throughout the Lake region, and from the Ohio valley to the Northwest, the figures show an average deficiency of about two inches, except at Cleveland, Grand Haven, Davenport, and Leavenworth, where, owing to heavy local rains, the amounts are somewhat above the mean. In Arkansas and western Tennessee, throughout the Gulf states and interior portions of Georgia and South Carolina a general deficiency of rain has been experienced, the amount which has fallen being less than the mean by 2.57 inches at Shreveport; 1.72 inches at New Orleans; 3.52 inches at Vicksburg; 2.45 inches at Memphis; 2.75 inches at Nashville; 4.50 inches at Mobile, and from two to four inches in Florida.

TEMPERATURE.

The mean temperatures for this month, compared with the mean temperatures for August, as ascertained by a long series of observations, show that over the entire country from the Atlantic to the Rocky Mountains, excepting in Florida and upper Michigan, unusually warm weather has been experienced. This excess of heat is greatest over the section of country extending from the middle Atlantic coast westward to southern Wisconsin and Missouri, amounting to 6°.6 at Washington; 4°.6 at Baltimore; 2°.9 at Philadelphia; 4° at Cincinnati; 4°.2 at Louisville; 3°.5 at Milwaukee and Chicago; 3°.9 at Saint Louis, and 4°.2 at Leavenworth. In the lower Mississippi valley, and from the lower lakes to the New England coast, the mean temperature has been about two degrees above the mean for August, while in Nebraska, Iowa, Minnesota, the Carolinas, eastern Tennessee, and on the Gulf coast the month has been but slightly warmer than usual. At San Francisco the temperature has been lower than usual by 2°.6, and at San Diego by 4°.

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